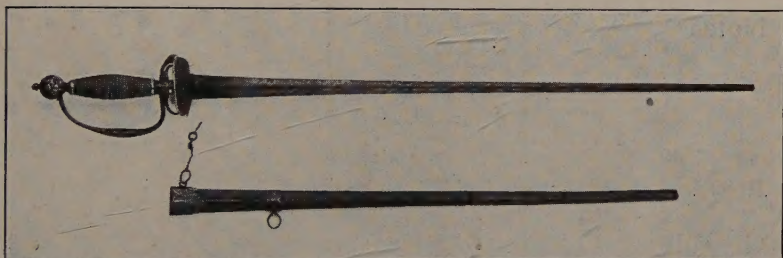


RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

Vol. XXI

October, 1928

No. 4



ROCHAMBEAU'S SWORD

Recently presented to the Society. See page 116.

Issued Quarterly

68 WATERMAN STREET, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

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RHODE
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SOCIETY

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No. 4

CLAUDE R. BRANCH, *President*
HOWARD W. PRESTON, *Secretary*

GILBERT A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer*
HOWARD M. CHAPIN, *Librarian*

The Society assumes no responsibility for the statements or the opinions of contributors.

Rhode Island and the Loyalists

BY HOWARD W. PRESTON

1. *Mob Violence*

The first Rhode Islanders to be seriously molested by their fellow citizens for their adherence to the British Crown were three Newport gentlemen conspicuous for their support of the Stamp Act. These were Augustus Johnston, then serving his eighth term as Attorney General of the Colony, Martin Howard, Jr., attorney at law, and Dr. Thomas Moffatt, physician and snuff manufacturer.

Mr. Johnston had accepted the office of Stamp Distributor for the Colony. Mr. Howard had published a pamphlet in reply to Stephen Hopkins' popular tract, "Rights of the Colonies examined," while Dr. Moffatt was too robust in upholding the new act.

It is evident that these men suffered not solely for their loyalty, but for advocating the enforcement of a law decidedly obnoxious to many of their fellow townsmen.

Newporters associated the word "revenue" with revenue officers, those irritating persons who always interfered with

trade. The merchants who saw their vessels searched and their cargoes seized did not hesitate to express very pungently their opinion of these officious intermeddlers.

The ill feeling between the townsfolk and custom house officials and naval officers calling at Newport or stationed there had been increasing rapidly. It reached such a height that in 1764 the Magistrates had ordered Fort George on Goat Island to fire on the British schooner *St. John*, and in June, 1765, a boat of H. M. S. *Maidstone* had been dragged by a mob to the Parade and burned.

Now came the Stamp Act, by which all legal documents must be written on paper bearing a revenue stamp and sold by the government and its agents.

Mr. Johnston had been so much in the public eye and so popular that in 1759, when a township was set off from Providence, it was named Johnstown in his honor. But when the Crown appointed him Stamp Distributor, his popularity was over.

In Massachusetts, Andrew Oliver, who had accepted the office of Stamp Distributor, was hung in effigy August 13, 1765, by a Boston mob, who the succeeding day pulled down a building supposed to be intended to be used for a stamp office and used the materials to burn his effigy. This broad hint was quickly taken. Mr. Oliver resigned the next day. The mob then took a ten day rest, and on August 26 resumed operations on a more ambitious scale. The records of the Court of Vice Admiralty at Boston were burned, and the houses of the Comptroller of Customs and Lieutenant Governor Hutchinson sacked. A hostile army would not have wrought more havoc. Only the walls of Hutchinson's house were left, and his library and the priceless documents he had gathered for his *History of New England* littered the streets of Boston.

Undoubtedly congenial spirits carried the news at once to Newport, where the next day, August 27, the mob rose.

The issue of the *Newport Mercury* for Monday, September 2, 1765, described proceedings:

"Last Tuesday Morning a Gallows was erected in Queen-Street just below the Court-House, whereon the Effigies of three Gentlemen were exhibited, one of whom was a Distributor of Stamps, which was placed in the center. The other two were suspected of countenancing and abetting the Stamp Act.

—— Various labels were affixed to the Breasts, Arms, &c denoting the Cause of these indignant Representations and the Persons who were the Subjects of Derision.—— They hung from Eleven o'clock till about Four, when some Combustibles being placed under the Gallows, a Fire was made and the Effigies consumed, amidst the Acclamations of the People.—— The whole was conducted with Moderation, and no Violence offered to the Persons or Property of any Man."

The gentlemen treated so conspicuously were Messrs. Johnston, Howard and Moffatt.

The same treatment had been given Mr. Oliver in Boston and was given to Stamp Distributors in other colonies.

The next evening there was a more serious disturbance. The *Newport Mercury* continues:

"Early on Wednesday Evening as four Gentlemen, among whom was Martin Howard, jun. Esq. were walking down Queen-Street, a Person, in Consequence of a private Pique, assaulted one of them, who soon disengaged himself and retreated. The other Gentlemen manifested some Resentment in his Behalf; but the Return they met with, induced them to withdraw, and go towards Mr. Howard's House.—— An Account of this Affair immediately spread among the People, a Mob collected, and marched directly to Mr. Howard's House, and not finding the Gentlemen there, they shattered some of the Windows and went off. But not satisfied with the Mischief they had done they soon returned to the Charge with redoubled Fury, broke the Windows and Doors all to Pieces, damaged the Partitions of the House and ruined such Furniture as was left in it, the best Part being happily removed out between the Attacks. This being done, the Mob drew off, and proceeded to the hired House that Doctor Moffatt lived in, where they committed Outrages equally terrible in tearing the House to

Pieces, and demolishing the Furniture. The Cellars of both Houses were ravaged, and the Provisions, Wines, &c destroyed and lost.—— From the Doctors they went in Quest of the Gentleman first aimed at, who had luckily by that Time, got on board the Cygnet Man of War, which lay upon the Back of the Fort. After this they surrounded the House of the then Stamp-Master, but upon Promises of his resigning that Office they offered no Violence to his Habitation.—— It was near Eleven o'clock when they were about to perform this last Act of Devastation, but desisting from this they contented themselves with rendering more complete the Ruins of the two Houses aforementioned.—— Next Morning the Stamp Masters resignation being publickly read the People announced their Joy by repeated Huzzas &c. and the Storm ceased."

Fortunately, Johnston, Howard and Moffatt, warned, had all taken refuge on the H. M. S. Cygnet. The same evening the mob visited the houses of John Robinson, Collector of the port, and John Nicoll, Comptroller, in search of these gentlemen who had likewise sought safety on the Cygnet.

Howard and Moffatt, not desiring to return to Newport, soon sailed in the Cygnet for England. The next issue of the *Newport Mercury* advertised for sale at public vendue "the Lot of Land and late Dwelling House of Martin Howard, jun."

Johnston, however, signing a paper not to execute the office of Stamp Distributor without the consent of the people, returned to his home in Newport.

Some time later, when the stamps for the use of the colony arrived, they were secured on board the Cygnet. When the Collector of the port demanded stamped paper for the use of his office, Johnston replied he could not land it without endangering his life.

Mr. Johnston found himself in a precarious situation, forced to choose between the Crown and the Colonists. He was reluctant to commit himself. The home government were sending orders to the colonial governors to aid the Stamp Distributors. The Governor and Council of Rhode Island called Mr. John-

ston before them on December 23, 1765, to know whether or not he was to serve as Stamp Distributor. He asked a day's delay, promising an explicit answer in the morning, but in the morning sent what the Council deemed an evasive reply.

The time had now come for extra-legal action.

To quote the *Newport Mercury* (December 30, 1765):

"The Evening of the same Day some of the Sons of Liberty understanding that Mr. Johnston had not made so clear an Answer as they might have expected (considering a former Paper he had signed and an Oath made in August last) and suspecting that he still had an Inclination to hold the Office so very odious to the Inhabitants of this Colony, went to his House, to insist upon an Answer in plain Terms but he could not be found and it afterwards appeared that he was gone on board one of the Men of War in the Harbour. The next Day in the Afternoon Mr. Johnston came on Shore and made a full Renunciation of his Office as follows

Whereas I the Subscriber am appointed Distributor of the Stamped Paper for the Colony, I do hereby resign and renounce the said Office, and do promise and declare, That I will never act in the same either by myself or Deputies, directly or indirectly, nor take any one Measure or Step whatever to introduce the Stamp Act (so odious to the Inhabitants of America) into this Colony. Witness my Hand, in Newport this 25th December 1765.

A. Johnston.

Newport December 25, 1765 Personally appeared Augustus Johnston Esq. and made solemn Oath. That the above is a sincere and honest Resignation and that he will forever hold himself obliged thereby. Before me Henry Ward Just. Peace

Which being published in the Audience of a large Assembly before the Court House he received the Plaudit of several Huzzas and the People dispersed. Upon the whole, if the Gentleman had really resigned in August as he would have had the Publick believe, how very easy would it have been for him to have answered plain *Yes* or *No* when it became his Duty to make such an Answer."

To escape this call of the Sons of Liberty Mr. Johnston had taken refuge on H. M. S. Maidstone in Newport harbour.

In consequence of the preceding document of Mr. Johnston the Governor was enabled the next day (December 26) to write truthfully to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury who had asked him to assist in the distribution of the stamps, that Mr. Johnston had resigned and no person in the colony would undertake the office.

Meanwhile, Howard and Moffatt were in England endeavoring to bring their wrongs to the favorable consideration of the Crown. They seemed to be successful. Parliament recommended that the colonies concerned recompense the sufferers from the stamp act riots, and in the spring of 1766 Secretary Conway from St. James wrote to Governor Ward, "There is nothing I have in command more earnestly to require of you than that you should exert yourself in recommending it strongly to the Assembly, that full and ample compensation be made to those, who, from the madness of the people, have suffered for their deference to acts of the British Legislature." R. I. C. R. VI—487.

At this time the Colony of Rhode Island had an unsettled claim against the Crown for stores and provisions furnished in 1756 for the use of the British army. The claims of the other colonies on this occasion had been paid, but owing, perhaps, to delay in presentation, Rhode Island's claim still was unpaid. The claim was originally for over four thousand pounds, but the paymaster general, by excluding various items, had reduced it to twenty-six hundred pounds. Apparently an order for the payment of this ten year old claim had already been made when the wrongs of Howard and Moffatt obtained a hearing. It may be that these gentlemen, knowing of the long unsettled claim, suggested that holding up its payment would be an effective method of securing the settlement of the claims they had against the colony of Rhode Island.

Soon Joseph Sherwood, the colony's London agent, notified the Governor that the Lords of the Treasury had announced that "as a requisition is gone from the Crown to the Colony

the treasury board think fit to suspend the payment of the money until an answer comes from the colony relating to that requisition." R. I. C. R. VI—510.

The issue was now fairly joined.

The Governor replied that no claims had yet been filed by the sufferers. When they were, they would be considered, but these unfiled claims had naught to do with the approved claim of the colony.

The sufferers now, in December, 1766, petitioned the General Assembly for compensation. The consideration of these petitions for relief was postponed from session to session until the petitioners should present claims for damages. When these were presented, they were objected against as too general. More, Howard and Moffatt demanded reimbursement for the expenses of their trip to England and also for loss of time, and Mr. Johnston included medical attendance and loss of fees.

The Assembly made it plain to the home government Howard and Moffatt's trip to England would receive no consideration, nor would they reimburse Mr. Johnston for the loss of any business due to his acceptance of an office under the Crown.

At length, in fall and winter, 1772, the Assembly appointed a committee to consider the revised specific accounts of losses submitted by the sufferers. The accounts and the committee's comments are interesting reading.

Dr. Moffatt's original general claim was £1310; his detailed estimate was £960. The committee showing property saved allowed him £179, 10 s, 6 d.

Martin Howard Junior's original general claim was £829; his revised detailed estimate was £334, 13 s, and the committee's allowance £111, 18 s.

Mr. Johnston's original general claim was £373, 1 s, 3 d; his revised claim £108, 9 s, 8 d, and the committee's allowance £76, 10 s.

Moreover, the payment of these sums to the sufferers was made conditional upon the payment by the Treasury Board of the colony's claim against the Crown. But the Gaspee had

already been burned, and more important matters demanded attention. No settlement was ever made. These gentlemen, however, were hardly financial sufferers, as their treatment by their fellow colonists brought them official preferment from the Crown.

Martin Howard, Jr., became Chief Justice of the Province of North Carolina; Augustus Johnston, Judge of Vice-Admiralty for the southern district of North America; and Thomas Moffatt, Comptroller of Customs at New London. Indeed, it is reported Mr. Howard, revisiting Newport, said to Secretary Henry Ward: "Henry, you may rely upon it, I have no quarrel with the Sons of Liberty in Newport; it was they who made me Chief Justice of North Carolina with a thousand pounds sterling a year."

The later history of these gentlemen is interesting, and we shall meet them again when the General Assembly takes action against the Tories.

Rochambeau's Sword

(Illustration on cover)

The sword that Rochambeau presented to General Nathan Miller of Warren, R. I., was owned by the late George Lewis Cooke, a descendant of General Miller. Mr. Cooke's sister, Mrs. Evelina Cooke Hardy, in accordance with her brother's wishes, recently presented the sword to the Society. In her letter of presentation, Mrs. Hardy wrote:

"My great-great grandfather was Nathan Miller, who served in the War of the Revolution in the capacity of Brigadier General of the Rhode Island Militia for the Counties of Bristol and Newport. His acquaintance with General Rochambeau ripened into a mutual friendship and at a ball in Newport they exchanged dress swords."

Notes

The following persons have been elected to membership in the Society:

Mr. Earl G. Batty

Dr. Louisa Paine Tingley.

Mrs. Joseph W. Greene

Mrs. Herman E. Trotter

Mr. Carlos G. Wright

The *Rhode Island Mariner* for April, 1928, contains two illustrated articles on Rhode Island nautical instruments and some other notes of Rhode Island interest.

The check list of manuscript revolutionary maps in the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan, which has recently been compiled by Randolph G. Adams, lists forty-three maps relating to Rhode Island. The Society has obtained photostat copies of these maps.

The Battle of Rhode Island, by Howard Willis Preston, is an illustrated monograph of 56 pages issued by the State Bureau of Information. It contains an interesting and impartial historical survey of the operations of the American forces in Rhode Island during the summer of 1778.

The ancestry of Samuel Gorton is given in the July, 1928, issue of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*.

A pictorial map of Jamestown has been issued in connection with the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the town.

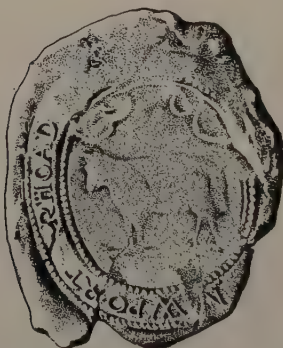
Two of the profile portraits by T. Nixon, which are owned by the Rhode Island Historical Society, are reproduced in the September issue of *Antiques*.

Six illustrated broadsides by Erich A. O'D. Taylor, entitled *Campaign on Rhode Island*, give a detailed account of the Sullivan Expedition of 1778.

Along the Shore Stories, *Old Houses with Stories*, and *Three Stories of the Old Stone Mill* are the titles of three pamphlets by Harriet E. Thomas, which have recently been published.

A handsome volume, *The Early American House* by Norman Morrison Isham, has just been issued in a limited edition. It contains a valuable collection of illustrations of early American work.

NEWPORT'S COLONIAL SEAL



SEAL OF NEWPORT IN 1729

An impression of an early seal of the Town of Newport, R. I., is preserved in the Massachusetts Archives. It is on a document dated September 18, 1729, in which the seal is referred to as the Council Seal of Newport. The device is a sheep, with some conventional foliage in an oval, which is surrounded by an inscription of which the words NEWPORT RHOAD are still discernible. The sheep was evidently chosen as the town's device on account of the importance of the sheep raising industry at that time. The inscription probably read either COUNCIL SEAL OF NEWPORT RHOAD ISLAND or TOWN OF NEWPORT RHOAD ISLAND. The seal is about an inch and a half tall.

The Relative Importance of Coddington and Clarke from 1637 to 1648

The question has recently been raised as to the relative importance of William Coddington and John Clarke* in the settlement of the island of Aquidneck, now called Rhode Island.

It is interesting to turn from the unsupported and rather reckless statements of modern partisan writers and to examine the contemporary documents, and see what light is thrown on the subject by the records and writings of the men who actually knew Clarke and Coddington.

A court accepts only the evidence of persons having actual knowledge of the events, and does not accept the thoughts, theories and imaginings of persons unacquainted with the events. Let us examine all the evidence which has any legal or historical value. The question is quite involved, and may best be simplified by being divided into five separate studies.

I

Why did the Antinomians leave Boston?

The Antinomians left Boston because of the teachings of Anne Hutchinson, not because of the teachings of Coddington, nor because of the teachings of Clarke. Indeed there is no evidence that Coddington or Clarke ever preached new doctrines in Boston. There is, however, much evidence in Winthrop's Journal and in the Massachusetts Colonial Records that Anne Hutchinson taught or preached the so-called doctrines of Antinomianism, and that on account of her teachings she was exiled from Massachusetts Bay and some of her followers were persecuted.

Winthrop, who was well acquainted with the Antinomians of Boston, refers to the first settlers of Aquidneck as "Mrs. Hutchinson's party" not Coddington's party, nor Clarke's party.

*On the title page of John Clark's *Ill Newes*, his name is spelled without the "e."

Winthrop wrote, under date of March 22, 1637: "divers of the congregation (being the chief men of the party, her husband being one)"; under the date of August 3, 1638: "Many of Boston and others, who were of Mrs. Hutchinson's judgment and party, removed to the Isle of Aquiday"; and under the date of August 13: "Those who were gone with Mrs. Hutchinson to Aquiday."

The Massachusetts Bay Court banished Mrs. Hutchinson on March 12, 1637/8, and summoned Coddington to appear before the May court, but Clarke was merely one of the 58 who were disarmed. Winthrop definitely stated that the court only banished two, Mr. Aspinwall and Mrs. Hutchinson.

No contemporary document, nor any document written later by a person living in 1637, refers to either Coddington or Clarke as the leader of the party that emigrated from Boston on account of the teachings of Mrs. Hutchinson.

It was Mrs. Hutchinson's teachings that created the party, it was Mrs. Hutchinson's teachings that drew down upon the party the wrath of the Boston authorities, and it was because of Mrs. Hutchinson's teachings that the emigration from Massachusetts Bay became necessary or desirable.

II

Who was the leader of the committee which bought Aquidneck?

There is no definite contemporary statement in regard to this. The evidence is as follows:

A group of Antinomians went to Narragansett Bay and through the mediation of Roger Williams bought Aquidneck.

Winthrop describes them at the time as "divers of the congregation (being the chief men of the party, her husband being one)."

Clarke, writing in 1652, states that he himself was one of the party. He said "I was requested with some others to seek out a place."

Williams, writing in 1658, said: "And because Mr. Coddington and the rest of my loving countrymen were to inhabit the

place and to be at the charge of the gratuities, I drew up a writing in Mr. Coddington's name, and in the names of such of my loving countrymen as came up with him."

Coddington in 1677 deposed that he himself with some others bought Aquidneck. His exact words were "this deponent with some others."

The actual deed of the Island, written at the time of the purchase, reads: "have sold unto Mr. Coddington and his friends united unto him." The deed was witnessed by Randall Holden.

In 1669 Coddington wrote: "I doe affirm that wee the Purchassers of Rhode Island (my selfe being the chief)."

III

Who was the dominant influence in the town of Pocasset (now called Portsmouth, R. I.)?

A meeting of the Pocasset settlers was held in Boston on March 7, 1638, before any settlement had been made, and at this meeting Coddington was chosen judge and Aspinwall secretary. There were only two offices created, and Clarke was not chosen to either of them.

Coddington continued as judge and sole executive officer of the town until January 2, 1638/9, when a board of three elders was created to assist the judge in "the whole care and charge of all the affairs" of the town.

Coddington continued as judge, and the three men chosen as elders on the governing board were Easton, Coggeshall and Brenton.

Clarke was not chosen a member of the executive board of elders, while he resided at Pocasset, and his only recorded political activity was to be appointed on a committee to survey the land. Jeoffries, Porter and Burden were also on this committee. This was the tenth committee that had been created.

IV

THE SETTLEMENT OF NEWPORT

Winthrop records in 1639 that "at Aquiday the people grew very tumultuous, and put out Mr. Coddington and the other

three magistrates, and chose Mr. William Hutchinson only, a man of a very mild temper and weak parts, and wholly guided by his wife, who had been the beginner of all the former troubles in the country, and still continued to breed disturbance. They also gathered a church in a very disordered way; for they took some excommunicated persons, and others who were members of the church of Boston and not dismissed."

Coddington himself wrote in December, 1639: "I am removed 12 myles further up in to the Iland. Ther they have gathered a Church, & doe intend to chuse officers shortely, & do desire better heelpes in that kind, when the Lord is pleased to send them, & would gladly use what means doth lye in us to obtayne them. Things are in fare better passe concerning our civill governmentt then they have bene. divers Famelyes being come in that had revolted from ther own acts, & have given satisfaction. Mr. Gorton & Mrs. Hutchinson doth oppose it. It was hached when I was last in the Baye, & the Lord, I hope, will shortely putt an esew to it."

The new settlement "further up in the Iland" was called Newport, and was governed by the judge and elders, Coddington, Easton, Coggeshall and Brenton. The power of the judge was increased by giving him two votes, and the elders only one vote each.

There is no contemporary reference to the part played by Clarke in the founding of Newport, except that he was one of the settlers who attended the first meeting at Newport.

Newport was governed from its founding to its union with Portsmouth on March 12, 1640, by a governing board consisting of Coddington as judge with the three elders, Easton, Coggeshall and Brenton.

Several new offices were created, such as treasurer, constable and clerk of the train band, but Clarke was not chosen to any of these positions.

Clarke did not serve on the governing board, and his public service at this time consisted in serving on three committees to lay out land, one committee to obtain facts in regard to Indian trade, and a committee to write to Mr. Vane and Mr. Burrwood in regard to obtaining a charter.

This latter committee is the only one of the committees of any particular importance. There is no record that this com-

mittee functioned, and three years later another committee was appointed for the same purpose.

V

Who dominated the united towns on Aquidneck?

On March 12, 1639/40, the towns of Portsmouth and Newport were united and a single government established over the whole island. The governing body consisted of the Governor, Deputy Governor, a board of four assistants, two treasurers and a secretary. Coddington was chosen Governor, Brenton, who had been an elder, was chosen Deputy Governor, and the other two elders were chosen Assistants. Two constables and a sergeant were chosen. Clarke was not elected to any office.

Coddington and Brenton were re-elected respectively Governor and Deputy Governor in the next four annual elections. There were some changes in the other offices and some new offices were created. Clarke was not elected to any office during the existence of the Aquidneck government from 1639 to 1644. Clarke's only public service during this period was his appointment on the committee of ten to procure a charter, and his writing of a letter from the town of Newport to the town of Providence in 1643. This letter may have been in connection with the work of this committee. There is no record of what this committee actually did, if anything.

Coggeshall was chosen President of the Colony in 1647, and Coddington was chosen President in 1648. The first public office to which Clarke was elected, was that of one of the six commissioners to represent Newport in the lower house in 1648, ten years after the settlement of Aquidneck.

It will be seen that Mr. Bicknell's statement that Clarke "was the recognized founder and father of the Aquidneck Plantations, the author of the Compact of Portsmouth, and the adviser and leading spirit in the organization and administration of the island towns" is an unwarranted supposition, unsupported by a single piece of contemporary evidence, and indeed, nothing written either during Clarke's lifetime or by anyone who personally knew Clarke has been found to support it.



POWDER HORN WITH VIEW OF PROVIDENCE CUT IN 1777 BY CHARLES HEWITT
Owned by Charles D. Cook



SECTIONS OF VIEW OF PROVIDENCE CUT IN 1777
BY CHARLES HEWIT OF PHILADELPHIA

From Powder Horn owned by Charles D. Cook

Hewit enlisted at Boston as matross in Colonel Crane's Artillery on Jan. 16, 1777, and served until Dec. 31, 1780. He is described as aged 30 years, of dark complexion and 5 ft. 4 in. tall.

Portsmouth, Rhode Island Genealogical Gleanings

By G. ANDREWS MORIARTY, A.M., LL.B.

The town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, the second oldest in the State, was founded by the Antinomian exiles from Boston, in 1638, and its records commence the following year, 1639.

In 1913 the able and efficient Town Clerk, Mr. Hicks, discovered an old box in the cellar of the town house, filled with old papers. This was indeed a find, for a large part of these papers consisted of original documents of the 17th century that for one reason or another had never been recorded and they throw much light upon obscure corners of Rhode Island genealogy. It was the early custom for the Portsmouth Town Council to make wills, as they were called, for persons dying intestate, these so-called wills were not officially recorded, but among the papers found were a large number that enable us to correct a good deal of Austin's work as regards Portsmouth families.

The following documents are only a few taken at random from these papers and there still remain many wills, bonds, inventories, etc., as well as many 18th century lay outs and plans to delight the student of early Portsmouth.

CORNELL

Will of Rebecca Cornell, widow of Thomas Cornell of Portsmouth, dated 2 Sept 1664 (this will was never proved for some reason). To eldest son, Thomas, the farm given him by deed 9 July 1663 on the West side of Rhode Island; also great silver bowl and then to his eldest son living, if his son Thomas be dead, otherwise to him. To daughter-in-law, Elizabeth, wife of son Thomas. To second son, Richard 1/5 of a share of Acoxet-Acushnet lands etc., also one silver dram cup. To third son William 1/5 of a share of Acoxet-Acushnet

lands etc. also one silver dram cup. To fourth son John $1/5$ of a share at Acushnet-Acoxet. To fifth son Samuel $1/5$ of a share of Acoxet-Acushnet lands. To son Joshua $1/5$ of a share of Acushnet-Acoxet lands. To daughter Sarah $1/2$ of a neck possessed by my husband near Manados and near Brunkes (Bronx), a great bible, a silver dram cup and a silver whistle. To second daughter Ann 10 acres in Portsmouth near George Layton's and after her decease and that of her husband Thomas, to her daughter Sarah. To third daughter Rebecca the other half of the neck near Monados, and second best guilt spoon. To fourth daughter Elizabeth silver spoons and silver wine cup. To fifth daughter, Mary, best guilt spoons, gold ring and silver wine cup. Four daughters Ann, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Mary. Residue to Richard, William, John, Samuel, Joshua, Sarah, Ann, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Mary. Executors Mr. William Baulston and Mr. John Sanford.

(This will clears up the question of the family of the first Thomas Cornell and his wife Rebecca. Both Austin and the Cornell genealogy contain errors upon this point. Of these children Joshua was deeded land in Dartmouth by his mother on 21 Oct. 1663 and to William Earle on 8 Aug. 1664. In both deeds Joshua is called "of Portsmouth." Cf. Bristol Co. Deeds Lib. 4 p. 442 and 443.)

Samuel lived in Dartmouth East of the Acoxet river. On 25 April 1689 he and his wife "Grissell" deed land there to Robert Gifford. (Bris. Co. Deeds Lib. 3 p. 35.) His will was dated 15:3 mo: 1699 proved 7 Feb. 1714/5 (Bristol Wills Bk III p. 214 $\frac{1}{2}$) He leaves to sons Thomas and Samuel and daughter Comfort. The executors were his "cozen Thomas Cornell of Portsmouth" and "cozen George Cadman of Dartmouth." How the latter was his "cozen" I cannot say. Samuel Jr. had a wife named Deborah, who joined in his mortgage to the Province Commissioners on 13 Feb. 1716/7 (Bris. Co. Deeds Lib 10 p 519)

Stephen Cornell³ (Thomas², Thomas¹) of Dartmouth had a wife Hannah and a son William on 23 Jan. 1716/7 (Bris. Co. Deeds Lib. 11 p. 393). There was apparently another son

named John, who sold land with William on 18 March 1728/9 (Brist Co. Deeds Lib. 19 p. 7). These items enable us to correct and add to the "Cornell Genealogy" published in 1902.

MANCHESTER-BROWNING

The will of Nathaniel Browning deceased late of Portsmouth was made by the Town Council on 4 April 1673. 4 children Mary, Sarah, William, Rebecca and Jane all unmarried and under age, but Mary the eldest soon to come of age. The land given by William Freeborne to the deceased Nathaniel Browning and Sarah his wife by deed of 2 January 1652/3 is mentioned. Estate given to the children by their grandfather William Freeborne. Executors: Gideon Freeborne and Clement "Serjant" Weaver of Newport, "both nearly related to the said children."

6 January 1677/8 estate of Sarah Browning single woman late of Portsmouth divided by the Town Council among her brothers and sisters, namely, Mary, wife of Thomas Manchester Jr. $1/4$ and her brother William Browning at 21 years $1/4$, and to sisters Rebecca and Jane at 16 or marriage $1/4$ each. Gideon Freeborne, uncle to the above deceased, to be administrator.

Administration on the estate of Thomas Manchester of Portsmouth late deceased was granted on 13:6 mo: 1722 to his eldest son Thomas, the widow Mary refusing. (Ports. Town Council vol. II pp. 55-56.) On 9:5 mo: 1722 the widow Mary had presented the inventory and mentions property given to "her son John Manchester by his father Thomas." (Ib.)

(These documents enable us to clear up an obscure point in the Manchester pedigree, as given by Austin. The latter states that Thomas² Manchester Jr. (Thomas¹) married Mary—and had a son John. He also states that William² Manchester (Thomas¹) was deeded land by Gideon Freeborne, who called him kinsman. (In the Warwick R. I. Deeds Gideon Freeborne is also called uncle of William Manchester.) The above records make it clear that Thomas Manchester Jr. mar-

ried Mary, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (Freeborne) Browning and had issue at least three sons Thomas, John and William and probably some daughters. This William² (Thomas², Thomas¹) was the man, who was called "kinsman" by Gideon Freeborne and not William² (Thomas¹).)

COOKE

Division of the estate of Capt. Thomas Cooke of Portsmouth deceased agreed upon by the Town Council 12 Oct. 1670. Thomas Cooke eldest son of Capt. Thomas Cooke, sole executor of the estate of the said Capt. Thomas Cooke and of his late deceased wife Thamasin Cooke. The lands to go to said Thomas Cooke the eldest son, he paying to his brothers John, George, Steven, and Ebenezer at the age of 21 years, and to his sisters Sarah wife of Peter Parker, Mary wife of Thomas Langford, Elizabeth, Phoebe and Martha Cook. Bond of Thomas Cooke as executor of his deceased parents Thomas and Thamasin Cooke given in 14 Oct. 1670.

Will of Thomas Cooke, eldest son of Thomas Cooke late of Portsmouth deceased, dated 29 Jan. 1670/1. To my brother John Cooke house at the age of 21 years, if he die before that to second brother George Cooke at 21 like remainder to third brother Steven Cooke at 21, like remainder to youngest brother Ebenezer Cooke at 21. Sisters Sarah Parker and Peter Parker husband of said Sarah. Overseers and executors grandfather Thomas Cooke, uncle John Cooke and Joseph Torrey Sen.

Bond on the estate of Thomas Cooke of Portsmouth deceased (i. e. Thomas¹) given by wife Mary executrix and Obediah Holmes 6 Feb. 1673/4.

Will of Mary Langford wife of Thomas Langford. To her husband's child 3 ewe sheep. To sister Parker and brother Thomas. Uncle John Cooke and Obediah Holmes executors. 7: 11 mo. 1670/1.

Will of Thomas Langford dated 30 Oct. 1670 leaves to wife Mary, his executrix, and to his son Thomas.

(These documents will serve to correct Austin's account of Thomas² Cooke (Thomas¹) and his family.)

THROCKMORTON

John Throckmorton of Providence gentleman, conveyed to Mr. Richard Parker of Boston half of Chubachuwiss alias Prudence Island formerly purchased by Mr. John Winthrop and Mr. Roger Williams of Sachems, Canonicus and Miantonomi 26 June 1654.

CADMAN

Christopher Cadman of Portsmouth yeoman granted administration on the estate of his brother George Cadman of Portsmouth, school master, 13 May 1765 (Ports. Town Council Bk. VI 2nd part p. 22 and 26).

Will of Christopher Cadman of Portsmouth yeoman. Wife Hannah Cadman, two sons William and Alpheus Cadman. When William is 22 years old he is to have my land in Portsmouth at the Ferry to Fogland. Honnoured mother Amy Cadman. Son Gideon Cadman and his sisters Mary, Amy, Deborah and Ruth all unmarried. Wife Hannah executrix to dispose of Dartmouth lands. Dated 16 Feb. 1764 proved 30 Oct. 1765 (Ports. Town Council vol. VI pt. 2 p. 35).

(Reference to Austin's account of this family will show who these were.)

HOOMERY

"Loving brother and sister Gershom and Sarah Wodell after my love remembered unto you, this is to desire you to take some care of my bisness, i paid in barbadus for William Wanton three pounds sixteen shillings, due to me from William Wonton for cuming from barbadus five and forty shilling a month, due to me from Ebenezer laurence, thirteen shillings six pence, due me from John Homry fourteen shillings four pence; and to pay An Clark for cloath for a coat and jacket and ——— Wofford for making and soe to take them i have a mare at Quaket and a gun at Thomas Cook's them two things i would have sold and the money given to my mother and for ye west of my things Gershom Wodell knows what to do with them."

James Tallman being 31 years of age or thereabout a testifieth to the truth of ye above writte to be ye veri truth declared by William Homry upon ye day of his death.

Mary brayton aged 22 yeares or thereabouts testifieth to ye truth of ye same. 13 Aug. 1700.

Bond on estate of William Homery by Gershom Wodell of Tiverton, John Fry of Bristol, John Tripp and James Tallman of Portsmouth on behalf of Wodell and Fry the executors. 19 Aug. 1700.

(This testator, a sea faring man, who went to Barbados, was perhaps the son of John Homery or Humeryhoo, as he is sometimes called, an early settler of Portsmouth, but one about whom little is known.)

ALMY

Bond of Christopher Almy of Srosebury (Shrewsbury) N. J. and Job Almy of Portsmouth executors of the will of William Almy late of Portsmouth dec. their father 22 June 1676.

WAITE

Inventory of the goods of Thomas Waite of Portsmouth 13 Sept. 1665.

(This shows that Waite had been dead some years when the Town Council made his will in 1669. Cf. New England Genealogical Register vol. 73 p. 291-304.)

WOOD

Administration on the estate of John Wood, late of Portsmouth deceased to his widow. His daughter Manchester. John his eldest son. Thomas his son to have the 60 acres next Robert Spinke, he now possesses. William, his son, to have pasture and the house. The three sons each to give an ewe to their sister Manchester April 1655.

BROWNE

Alice Browne of Mile End in the parish of Stepney co. Middlesex, widow for love and affection grants and gives all her personal goods and effects to her three children Richard,

Edward and Henry Brown 20 Dec. 1656. On this document below is written "Enoch Briggs had his deed 12: 12 mo: 1714/5."

GREENE

Letter from John Greene of Warwick (i. e. Deputy Gov. John Greene) dated 5 Nov. 1690 addressed to "Loving Cousin," apparently at Portsmouth, mentions son Samuel Greene and brother Christopher Almy.

Receipt of James Greene to his brother in law John Anthony town treasurer of Portsmouth.

CARTER-MOONE

Will of Elizabeth Carter of Portsmouth, widow woman. To brother John Shrieve. To brother Daniel Shrieve. To sister Mary Sheffield. To sister Sarah Moone. To sister Susanna Thomas. Cousin Elizabeth Shrieve (Granddaughter to brother John Shrieve). To cousin Ruth Shrieve (Granddaughter to brother John Shrieve). To cousin Caleb Shrieve (son of brother John Shrieve). To cousin Daniel Shrieve (son of brother John Shrieve). Cousin William Shrieve (son of brother John Shrieve). Cousin Mary Shrieve (daughter of brother John Shrieve). Cousin Abigail Vaughan (daughter of sister (Sarah Moon). Cousin Elizabeth Moon (daughter of sister Sarah Moon). To Cousin Elizabeth Wait (daughter of sister Mary Sheffield) my silver dram cup. Cousin Martha Cory daughter of sister Sarah. Four cousins Mary, Caleb, Daniel and William Shrieve. Executor brother John Shrieve. Overseer friend and neighbor George Cornell. Dated 17 March 1718/9 proved 13: 5 mo: 1719. (Ports. Town Council Book II.)

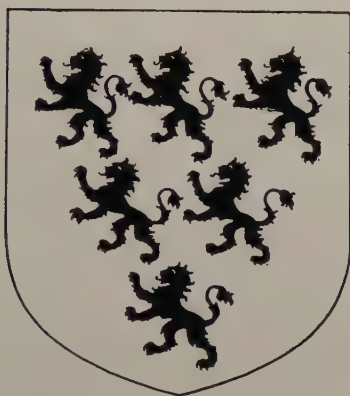
(This splendid genealogical will makes clear the early generations of the Shrieve or Sheriff family of Rhode Island and New Jersey. The testatrix was a daughter of Thomas Sheriff or Shrieve of Plymouth and later of Portsmouth, R. I.

"Cousin Elizabeth Wait" is the daughter of Joseph Sheffield Esq. of Portsmouth born 1 June 1698. She was not married when her father made his will 3 Feb. 1705/6, but she is evidently identical with the Elizabeth Sheffield, who married at North Kingstown (where her brothers settled) on 17 Oct. 1717 Joseph Wait of Kingston and Exeter, R. I. (Cf. New England Genealogical Register vol. 73 p. 291-304.).)

Colonial Heraldry

(Continued from page 108)

SAVAGE

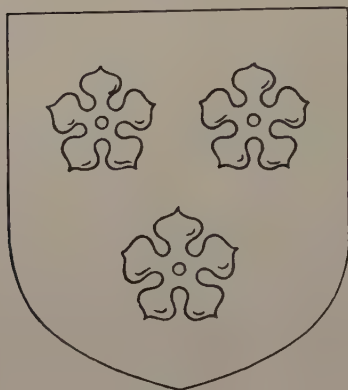


Thomas Savage, one of the original settlers of Rhode Island, was son of William Savage of Taunton, Somersetshire, blacksmith. (Savage, *Gen. Dict. of N. E.*). Thomas Savage died in 1681-2, and his grave is marked by an armorial tombstone. The arms are "six lioncels rampant, 3, 2, 1," with the crest "A lion's gamb erased," (*Her. Jour.* II:22). The same arms and crest with the lioncels and crest sable appear on a piece of plate presented to Christ Church, Boston, in 1732 by Arthur Savage, grandson of Thomas, the emigrant, (Jones' *Old Silver of Amer. Churches*, p. 76). The Gore Roll gives the colors as: "Argent, six lioncels sable," with the crest "Out of a coronet or, a lion's¹ gamb," for the arms of Thomas Savage 1720, grandson of the emigrant, (*Her. Jour.* I:133).

Thomas Savage, the emigrant, owned a seal ring, which bore the arms and crest as they appear on the gravestone. This seal was used in 1683 by his four sons on a document, now in the Massachusetts Archives, (II:58), in 1697, by his son-in-law, Joshua Scottow (*Her. Jour.* II:7), and in 1705 by his son, Thomas Savage, on his will, in which he bequeathed to his son Habijah "my seal-ring that was my father's," (*Her. Jour.* II:7).

¹*Her. Jour.* says "bear's paw."

BORDEN



Gore Roll item No. 73 offers a curious puzzle. It gives the arms of Francis Brinley of Newport impaling "Argent three cinquefoils, azure" for "Mary, widow of Francis Brinley of Newport in the Colony of Rhode Island. Brinley and Borden 1722" (*Her. Jour.* I:135).

There seems to be some mistake in this entry. The widow of Francis Brinley was Hannah, not Mary, and according to Savage (1:255) and Austin (256) her family name was Carr, not Borden, as might be presumed from the impaling of her husband's arms with the arms of Borden. It is of course possible that she was a widow when Brinley married her, that her maiden name was Borden, and that she first married Carr and later Brinley. The second Francis Brinley and his wife Deborah Lyde were both living in 1722. The only Mary Brinley of record was Mary Sanford, who married William Brinley, and became a widow in 1704. She, however, married Josiah Arnold, that year, 1704, and was wife of Josiah Arnold at the time of her death in 1721.

The arms ascribed to Borden in the Gore Roll are not given as Borden by Glover, Papworth, Edmondson, Burke and other heraldic writers, but "Argent three cinquefoils sable"¹ are ascribed to Burgedon, Burghdon and Bourghdon by Glover, Papworth, Edmondson and Burke.

¹Sable and azure are often mistaken for one another.

In the early references to Richard Borden (1638-1656) in the *Rhode Island Colonial Records* his name is spelled Burden, which would seem to show the pronunciation and probably the identity of the name with Burgedon or Burghdon. In this case the arms "Argent three cinquoils azure" may have been originally Burghdon arms, in which the sable had been changed accidentally or for difference to azure in that branch of the family, in which the spelling of the name gradually became changed to Burden and finally to Borden. There were two other Burdens in Portsmouth beside Richard, namely; Thomas in 1640 and John in 1643, and the Mary, alias Hannah, might have been the daughter or sister of either.

FENNER



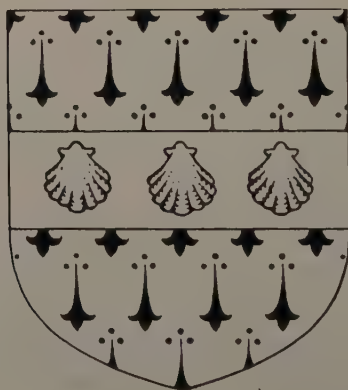
Arthur Fenner of Providence, who was born in 1699, son of Thomas and grandson of Arthur Fenner, erected armorial gravestones in memory of three of his children; James, who died in 1751, Joseph, who died in 1751, and Sarah, who died in 1756; and also in memory of his wife, Mary, who died in 1756.

The arms are "On a cross between four eagles displayed, a cross formée." The crest on three of the stones is "An eagle

displayed," but on Sarah's stone the crest is "An eagle rising." The *Heraldic Journal* (III:162) gives the eagles as ermine, but if they ever were ermine, the ermine spots no longer show on the stones.

Edmondson (1780) and Burke give "Vert, a cross argent charged with a cross formée gules, between four eagles of the second," for the Fenners of Middlesex, and Burke gives the same arms with the crest "An eagle displayed argent, membered or" for the Fenners of Sussex. Burke, under the names of Fenner and Fenne, gives variant tinctures.

BROOKE



William Brooke, who died at Newport, October 19, 1727, used an armorial seal in 1713. The arms are "Ermine, on a fesse three escallops." The colors are not given, (*R. I. H. S. M.* XI:33 and *Legal Papers* I:95). Burke gives two similar Brooke arms: viz: "Or, on a fesse azure three escallops of the field" for De Capell-Brooke of Oakley, co. Northampton, and "Or, on a fesse engrailed azure three escallops of the field" for Brooke of Weston, co. Buckingham, the latter one being given by Guillim in 1724 for John Brook of Neston, Bucks. From these arms it would seem probable that William Brooke's

arms were "Ermine on a fesse azure three escallops or," although no such arms are listed by Burke or Papworth. William Brooke of Newport was son of William Brooke of Batley in Yorkshire and grandson of Joshua Brooke. William removed to London, where he worked as a dyer, and about 1710 emigrated to New England. He settled first at Boston, but removed to Newport as early as 1713.

CHALONER



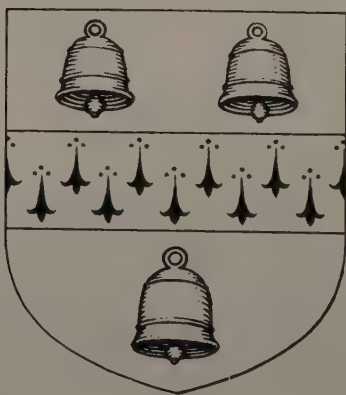
The gravestone of Ninyon Chaloner, who died at Newport, August 14, 1752, in the 65th year of his age, bears the arms: "A chevron between three cherub's heads," with the crest "A wolf statant regardant¹, pierced through the shoulder by a broken spear." The arms "Sable a chevron between three cherub's heads or" is given by Kent (1716) and by Burke as the arms of the Chaloners of Yorkshire, and the crest, "A wolf statant regardant argent pierced through the shoulder by a broken spear or, the upper part in his mouth, the lower resting on the wreath," is ascribed by Burke to the Challenors of Ken-

¹Vermont erroneously shows the wolf as statant not statant regardant (p. 43).

wardes, Lindfield, Sussex, but with a different coat. The *Heraldic Journal* (III:67) suggests that Ninyon Chaloner combined the arms of one family with the crest of the other. If this is so, it would seem as though Ninyon (or some ancestor of Ninyon) assumed the combination because he was uncertain of his pedigree, and so sought to "difference" his arms by the combination of a previously unassociated arms and crest.

Ninyon Chaloner was probably born in England. The earliest record of him in America is in 1731, when he signed a petition at Newport, (*R. I. C. R.* IV:457).

BELL

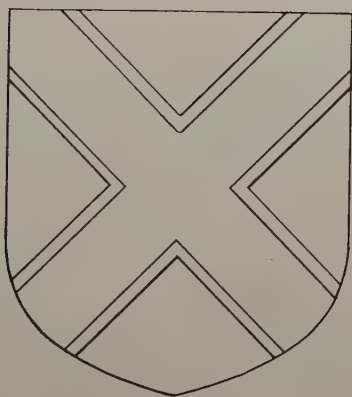


William Bell of Newport placed the Bell coat of arms on the tombstone of his wife, Martha, who died in 1737. The arms are "A fess ermine between three bells," with the crest "An eagle rising ermine," (*Her. Jour.* III:9). An ermine spot is actually cut on the breast of the eagle. The Gore Roll, No. 97, gives "Azure a fess ermine between three bells or" for the Bell family of Boston (*Her. Jour.* I:139), and Kent, 1716, gives "Sable, a fesse ermine between three bells argent" for the Bells

of Upwell in Norfolk, and various other tinctures are given by Burke.

Burke gives several crests for the Bell family, which include a falcon rising, a hawk close, and a hawk with wings expanded.

ANDREWS

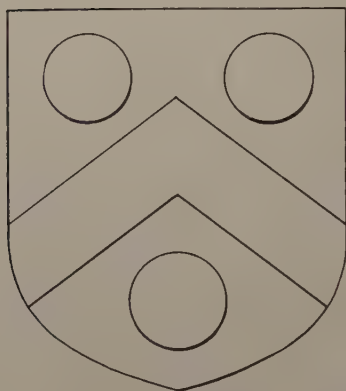


Col. John Andrew, alias Andrews, of Providence placed on the tombstone of his wife, Abigail, who died in 1751, the coat of arms of Andrews, "one saltire surmounted by another," (*Her. Jour.* III:160). Burke ascribes "Gules a saltire or, surmounted by another vert" to several of the name of Andrew and Andrews, and also gives "Gules a saltire voided or" for the Andrewes of Doddington.

Col. John Andrews died in 1803, at the age of 87, according to his gravestone, so he must have been born about 1716. His ancestry has not been traced.

Vermont (*Amer. Herald.*, 41) without authority, states that Col. John Andrews was a descendant of John Andrews of Farmington, Conn., 1640, and gives a crest, which does not appear on the stone.

GOULDING



The arms "Gules¹ a chevron between three roundles" appear on two Goulding tombstones at Newport; that of George Goulding, 1742, and that of his son, George Goulding, 1748, (*Her. Jour.* III:9, 10). The elder George Goulding was son of Roger Goulding and nephew of Benedict Arnold, Junior, whose armorial tombstone has already been described. Roger Goulding's ancestry has not been traced. Burke lists "Gules a chevron or between three bezants" and "Gules a chevron argent between three bezants" for Golding and the latter arms for Golden also.

¹The tincture lines for gules are actually cut on the stone erected in memory of George Goulding Senior.

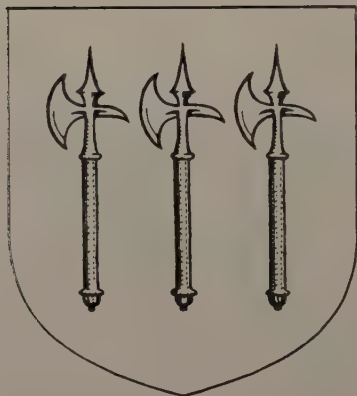
THURSTON

The Thurston coat of arms, "a fesse between three bugle horns stringed," appears on the gravestone of Jonathan Thurston of Newport, who died in 1749, and also on the gravestone of his son, Jonathan, who died in 1757, (*Her. Jour.* III: 65). The elder Jonathan was son of Edward, and grandson of the first Edward Thurston, who settled in Newport as early as 1647.



According to Burke the Thurstons of Cranbrook, Kent, bore "Sable a chevron between three bugle horns stringed or;" the Thurstons of Hoxon, Suffolk, "Sable three bugle horns stringed or garnished azure," the Thurstons of Lancashire, "Sable three bugle horns stringed argent" and another family of Thurstons, "Sable three bugle horns argent stringed or." The chevron in the arms of the Thurstons of Cranbrook and the fesse in the arms of the Thurstons of Newport were probably additions for difference, and it seems probable that the tinctures of the arms of the Thurstons of Newport were: "Sable, a fesse between three bugle horns stringed or," although of course the second tincture may have been *argent* instead of *or*.

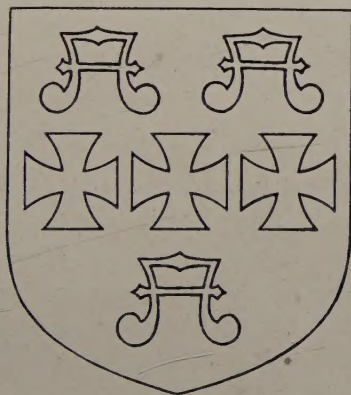
GIBBS



The monument erected by George Gibbs of Newport in memory of his wife, Susannah, and his son, George, both of whom died in 1767, bears the arms "Three battle axes erect in fesse" as on the Gibbs tombstones at Providence, but with a different crest, viz: "An arm embowed holding a battle axe," (*Her. Jour.* III:12). This seems to be the crest of the Gibbs of Elimestone in Kent, which Edmondson gives as "An arm in armour embowed proper, garnished or, holding in the gauntlet a pole axe argent" with the shield "Argent three pole axes Sable." The ancestry of George Gibbs is traced to James Gibbs of Froome in Somersetshire, who was living in 1690, (*Her. Jour.* III:13).

CHESEBROUGH

Armorial gravestones were erected in Stonington, Connecticut, to the memory of David Chesebrough of Newport and his wife, Margaret, both of whom died in 1782. David Chesebrough was son of William Chesebrough of Stonington, and great grandson of William Chesebrough, the emigrant.



The arms are "Three crosses pattée in fesse between as many water bougets," with the crest "A demi-lion rampant holding a cross pattée in his paws," (*Her. Jour.* II:87). Burke ascribes the arms "Gules three crosses pattée in fesse argent between as many water bougets or," with the crest "A demi-lion rampant gules holding between his paws a cross pattée or" to the Chesebroughs, but gives no location.

ROBINSON



Mrs. Everitte S. Chaffee of Providence has a silver teapot made by Samuel Casey, (1724-1773), on which is engraved the Robinson arms, viz: "on a chevron gules between three stags trippant, three cinquefoils." The teapot has been handed down in the Wanton and Lyman families, and bears the initials "A. R." for Abigail Robinson, who married John G. Wanton in 1752.

These arms are apparently those of the Robinsons of London and Yorkshire, 1634, which are the only Robinson arms with a chevron gules listed by Burke. They are given as "Or, on a chevron gules, between three stags trippant vert, as many cinquefoils of the first."

This armorial engraving on the teapot, probably executed about 1752, is the earliest recorded use of these Robinson arms in America. Rowland Robinson, the ancestor of Abigail Robinson, is said to have emigrated from Cumberland, which is in the north of England, not far from Yorkshire.

Dr. Bowditch does not place much reliance on the tincture lines as used on old silver and old book plates.

